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WASHINGTON D.C., OKLAHOMA LEAD IN UNITED VAN LINES MIGRATION STUDY

ST. LOUIS--For the second consecutive year, Oklahoma heads the list of contiguous states attracting the greatest percentage of new residents versus people moving away, according to a migration pattern study conducted by United Van Lines, one of the world's largest movers of household goods. Of total movements handled by the van line to and from the state of Oklahoma, 63.3 percent were inbound.

The study, based on more than 125,000 household goods shipments the van line serviced in 50 states during 1982, revealed once again that the District of Columbia had the highest in-migration percentage due to governmental changes and military transfers. The District has consistently led United's list of high inbound areas since the study was begun six years ago. Of total shipments handled in the District, 64.5 percent were inbound.

Total inbound and outbound shipments handled by United were compared state by state in the study. If 55 percent or more of relocation activity was inbound, the state was considered to have high inbound migration.

United's migration pattern study shows that states in the Southwest and Southeast are continuing to gain more inbound than outbound shipments. Besides the District of Columbia and Oklahoma, states considered to have high in-migration status include Alaska, Vermont, Texas, Arizona, Florida, Utah, Virginia, New Mexico and Nevada.

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"As in recent years, most of the movement seems to be to sun belt states," President Robert J. Baer said. "The mild climates of Florida and Arizona continue to be major attractions." Of Florida's 16,877 total shipments, 59 percent were inbound. Of Arizona'a 6,298 shipments, 59.6 percent were inbound.

States with highest out-migration were Wisconsin, Michigan, and West Virginia. A state is considered to have a high out-migration if 44.9 percent or less of total activity is inbound. Only 33.3 percent of shipments handled in Wisconsin were inbound; Michigan, 34.1 percent; West Virginia, 34.9 percent. Other states with high out-migration were Illinois, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Indiana, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Iowa, North Dakota, Montana, New Jersey, Hawaii, Alabama, and Kentucky.

This year's study also supports U.S. Commerce Department Census Bureau reports that the country's mobility is declining. "We handled 135,000 household goods shipments in 1981, while our 1982 study is based on 125,000 shipments," Baer said.

Some factors which may have influenced this drop include difficulty in purchasing homes due to high housing costs and interest rates; a climb in the number of two-salary families who may reject long-distance relocation because both persons would need to find jobs in a new location; and a drop in family size which has reduced the need to move to larger homes.

"Our business in the East, Northeast and North Central states indicates that more people continue to move away from those areas than into them," Baer said. "A depressed economy and the high cost of doing business for major manufacturers in these areas have contributed to this population shift."

Twenty-three states experienced an approximate balance between outbound and inbound movement, the United study revealed. This means that between 45 percent and 54.9 percent of the activity was inbound.

Five states accounted for 37.8 percent of all household goods shipments handled by United. These states were California (28,774 shipments), Texas (28,319 shipments), Florida (16,877 shipments), Illinois (10,874 shipments), and New York (10,683 shipments).

Hawaii, Colorado, Washington, Oregon, and South Carolina, which were listed among the high in-migration states in 1981, did not maintain that status in 1982. High inbound activity in Vermont, New Mexico and Nevada, however, elevated these states to high in-migration status. Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Dakota and Maine which showed high out-migration in the 1981 study appeared balanced in 1982. Hawaii and Kentucky were new high out-migration states in 1982 compared to the 1981 study.

United Van Lines is one of the world's largest movers of household goods and has more than 1,100 agents in 150 countries around the globe. The van line specializes in the transportation of electronic equipment, trade show exhibits, art, displays, plant equipment and office furnishings, and also serves as a carrier for special commodities and newly manufactured products. United's world headquarters is in suburban St. Louis.

1982
(BASED ON OVER 125,000 SHIPMENTS)

	TOTAL SHIPMENTS	OUTBOUND SHIPMENTS	INBOUND SHIPMENTS	% INBOUND SHIPMENTS
Alabama	3,761	2,091	1,670	*44.4
Alaska	671	247	424	63.2
Arizona	6,298	2,547	3,751	59.6
Arkansas	1,634	794	840	51.4
California	28,774	12,983	15,791	54.9
Colorado	8,051	3,871	4,180	51.9
Connecticut	3,124	1,635	1,489	47.7
Delaware	839	434	405	48.3
D. C.	976	346	630	†64.5
Florida	16,877	6,912	9,965	†59.0
Georgia	7,769	3,796	3,973	51.1
Hawaii	619	347	272	*43.9
Idaho	1,391	724	667	48.0
Illinois	10,874	6,589	4,285	*39.4
Indiana	3,253	1,925	1,328	*40.8
Iowa	1,777	1,022	755	*42.5
Kansas	3,789	1,977	1,812	47.8
Kentucky	2,829	1,565	1,264	*44.7
Louisiana	4,573	2,134	2,439	†53.5
Maine	1,284	686	598	46.6
Maryland	3,983	1,876	2,107	52.9
Massachusetts	5,173	2,736	2,437	47.1
Michigan	7,363	4,855	2,508	*34.1
Minnesota	4,026	2,380	1,646	*40.9
Mississippi	2,103	1,134	969	46.1
Missouri	5,954	3,185	2,769	46.5
Montana	1,266	719	547	*43.2
Nebraska	1,654	758	896	54.2
Nevada	2,151	956	1,195	†55.6
New Hampshire	1,318	796	522	*39.6
New Jersey	6,846	3,850	2,996	*43.8
New Mexico	2,655	1,171	1,484	†55.9
New York	10,683	6,425	4,258	*39.9
North Carolina	6,880	3,594	3,286	47.8
North Dakota	1,061	608	453	*42.7
Ohio	9,025	5,400	3,625	*40.2
Oklahoma	3,373	1,238	2,135	†63.3
Oregon	2,820	1,506	1,314	46.6
Pennsylvania	7,386	4,358	3,028	*41.0
Rhode Island	680	359	321	47.2
South Carolina	3,331	1,564	1,767	53.0
South Dakota	637	342	295	46.3
Tennessee	4,257	2,145	2,112	49.6
Texas	28,319	11,405	16,914	†59.7
Utah	1,965	847	1,118	†56.9
Vermont	321	127	194	†60.4
Virginia	6,538	2,828	3,710	†56.7
Washington	5,503	2,556	2,947	53.6
West Virginia	1,140	742	398	*34.9
Wisconsin	3,592	2,397	1,195	*33.3
Wyoming	1,232	666	566	45.9
	252,398	126,148	126,250	

† = High In-bound
* = High Out-bound

UNITED STATES MIGRATION PATTERNS IN 1982
ACCORDING TO SHIPMENTS HANDLED BY UNITED VAN LINES

(Based in over 125,000 household goods shipments)